

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 717

By Tracy

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Coach Ray Smith and the Hoodlum Alley Claybusters Rookie Team upon winning the 2009 Scholastic Clay Target Program National Championship and the 2009 Academics, Integrity, and Marksmanship National Championship.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to recognize those sterling scholastic sporting organizations whose efforts bring honor to both their participants and the State of Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, Bedford County's Hoodlum Alley Claybusters rookie competitive clay shooting team is one such organization; and

WHEREAS, the Claybusters success at the 2009 Scholastic Clay Target Program (SCTP) National Championship and at the 2009 Academics, Integrity, and Marksmanship (AIM) National Championship, both held in Sparta, Illinois, reflects the level of excellence attained by this organization; and

WHEREAS, the team is comprised of a talented group of fourth and fifth graders ranging in age from nine to eleven years old, each of whom must maintain a 3.0 grade point average; and

WHEREAS, the skillful young members of the team are Captain Chase Smith of Shelbyville, Ryan Patterson of Wartrace, Cannon Lamb of Shelbyville, C. J. Monce of Shelbyville, Austin Haithcote of Shelbyville, and Tripp Reed; and

WHEREAS, during the state SCTP competition and the state AIM competition, these intrepid rookie shooters shot impressively, claiming the State Championship in both competitions, and qualifying the team for both national tournaments in Sparta; and

WHEREAS, the team members extended their splendid level of success into the national tournaments, beginning at the two day SCTP National Championship held July 25-26, 2009; scoring an incredible 863 out of a possible 1,000 (863/1,000) for the tournament, the Claybusters won the Rookie Division of the SCTP National Championship; and

WHEREAS, two weeks later on August 8th and 9th, with their first national title under their belt, the rookie Claybusters set their sights on the AIM National Title; and

WHEREAS, fighting extremely high winds and hot temperatures, the boys scored a remarkable 889/1,000 for the two day event, a score that was high enough to earn them not only the AIM National Championship for fourth and fifth grade clay shooters, but a score which would have beaten several of the high school teams participating in the tournament; and

WHEREAS, Captain Chase Smith had a phenomenal showing in the state tournaments as well as the national tournaments; with his talent and shotgun expertise on display, he shot 91/100 at the SCTP state tournament, earning highest score overall in the Rookie Division, and he shot 96/100 at the AIM state tournament, earning highest Class A Shooter honors; and

WHEREAS, following his stellar performance at both state tournaments, he was nothing short of magnificent in both national tournaments, shooting 190/200 at the SCTP National Tournament and 192/200 at the AIM National Tournament, placing him third nationally in the Pre-Sub Category; and

WHEREAS, with state championships, national championships, and numerous awards and accolades in hand, the team also earned a spot on the cover of the September 2009 issue of *Trap and Field Magazine*; and

WHEREAS, the leadership and passion of Coach Ray Smith, who expertly molded the natural talent of the shooters into a championship caliber team, was instrumental during the rookie Claybusters' magical season; and

WHEREAS, the season was also especially rewarding for Jim Bean who, along with his late wife, Connie Bean, founded the Hoodlum Alley Claybusters in Bedford County, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, during this incredible championship season, the members of the 2009 Hoodlum Alley Claybusters rookie team have etched their names onto the hearts of

Tennesseans and into the annals of Tennessee sports history; their dedication, determination, work ethic, and talent not only made possible a successful and memorable season, but also surely point toward their successes in future endeavors; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate Coach Ray Smith and the Hoodlum Alley Claybusters rookie team upon capturing the 2009 Scholastic Clay Target Program National Championship and the 2009 Academics, Integrity, and Marksmanship National Championship, applaud their heralded success on the trap field and offer our best wishes for their continued success in the future.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.